

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

- For today's prophecy update, I've sensed from the leading of the Holy Spirit, the need to share with you what's been on my heart, as of late.
- I had an entirely different prophecy update planned for today but changed it on Thursday when I realized what was really happening in my heart.
- I've been both studying and teaching Bible prophecy, even before entering the pastorate, for over 20 years, and now find myself beside myself.

- Let me explain, the swiftness with which prophetic puzzle pieces are put in place, is creating a boggling of my mind, and a burning in my heart.
- I find myself, fighting myself and containing myself, so as to not be perceived as some cooky crazy preacher who still believes Jesus is coming.
- I know it's becoming less popular as people mock, scoff and ridicule us, However, I still believe that; not only is Jesus coming, He's at the door!

- That's what I want to share with you today! I want to talk about why the rapture of the bride of Christ, is so much closer than any of us think.
- In order to do this, I'll begin by presenting a number of news headlines, none of which are in any particular order, and all of which are recent.
- So, what follows are the day and date of the news story, the source of the news story, and finally, and most importantly the headline itself.

Day and Date	News Source	Headline	Web Address
Tuesday, January 31st, 2012	ABC News	U.S. Intel Head James Clapper on Greatest Threats in 2012	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-intel-head-james-clapper-worldwide-threats-2012/story?id=15479381#">http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-intel-head-james-clapper-worldwide-threats-2012/story?id=15479381#</a>
Monday, January 30th, 2012	World Tribune	Can this global mess wait until January 2013?	<a href="http://www.worldnewtribune.com/2012/01/30/can-this-global-mess-wait-until-january-2013/">http://www.worldnewtribune.com/2012/01/30/can-this-global-mess-wait-until-january-2013/</a>
Wednesday, February 1st, 2012	World Tribune	U.S. intel: Syrian regime could survive 2012 thanks to backing from China, Russia, Iran	<a href="http://www.worldnewtribune.com/2012/02/01/u-s-intel-syrian-regime-could-survive-2012-with-backing-from-china-russia-iran/">http://www.worldnewtribune.com/2012/02/01/u-s-intel-syrian-regime-could-survive-2012-with-backing-from-china-russia-iran/</a>
Monday, January 30th, 2012	Yahoo News	UN panel says retool world economy for sustainability	<a href="http://news.yahoo.com/un-panel-says-retool-world-economy-sustainability-164515165.html">http://news.yahoo.com/un-panel-says-retool-world-economy-sustainability-164515165.html</a>
Monday, January 30th, 2012	Yahoo News	America Will Be at War with Iran Within One Year	<a href="http://news.yahoo.com/america-war-iran-within-one-235400262.html">http://news.yahoo.com/america-war-iran-within-one-235400262.html</a>
Friday, January 27th, 2012	Jewish World Review	Obama: Of course I intend to prevent a nuclear holocaust . . . in a few months	<a href="http://jewishworldreview.com/0112/glick012712.php3">http://jewishworldreview.com/0112/glick012712.php3</a>
Saturday, January 22nd, 2012	Arutz Sheva	'Israel to Give Obama 12 Hours Notice on Attacking Iran'	<a href="http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/151965#">http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/151965#</a>
Tuesday, January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2012	RT News	As death toll mounts, time running out for war-torn Syria	<a href="http://rt.com/news/syria-violence-damascus-terrorists-125/">http://rt.com/news/syria-violence-damascus-terrorists-125/</a>
Saturday, February 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Reuters News	Egypt's military rulers face calls for earlier vote	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/04/us-egypt-protest-idUSTRE8130I920120204">http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/04/us-egypt-protest-idUSTRE8130I920120204</a>
Monday, January 16th, 2012	The Jerusalem Post	IDF preparing for major Gaza action within months	<a href="http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Article.aspx?ID=253916&amp;R=R1">http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Article.aspx?ID=253916&amp;R=R1</a>
Sunday, January 15th, 2012	The Jerusalem Post	The Region: 2012- the year of living dangerously	<a href="http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=253756">http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=253756</a>
Friday, January 13th, 2012	The Washington Post	10 reasons the U.S. is no longer the land of the free	<a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/is-the-united-states-still-the-land-of-the-free/2012/01/04/gIQAvcD1wP_story.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/is-the-united-states-still-the-land-of-the-free/2012/01/04/gIQAvcD1wP_story.html</a>
Sunday, January 15th, 2012	CBS News	The ticking clock of Iran's nuclear threat	<a href="http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57359410/the-ticking-clock-of-irans-nuclear-threat/">http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57359410/the-ticking-clock-of-irans-nuclear-threat/</a>
Tuesday, January 10th, 2012	The Washington Post	Doomsday Clock ticks closer to midnight	<a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/checkpoint-washington/post/doomsday-clock-ticks-closer-to-midnight/2012/01/10/gIQAxpKfoP_blog.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/checkpoint-washington/post/doomsday-clock-ticks-closer-to-midnight/2012/01/10/gIQAxpKfoP_blog.html</a>
Friday, February 3rd, 2012	The Telegraph	Is 2012 the year Israel will bomb Iran?	<a href="http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/concoughlin/100126380/is-2012-the-year-israel-will-bomb-iran/">http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/concoughlin/100126380/is-2012-the-year-israel-will-bomb-iran/</a>
Tuesday, Dec 27th, 2011	IOL News	Will 2012 be a record disaster year?	<a href="http://www.iol.co.za/news/world/will-2012-be-a-record-disaster-year-1.1204664">http://www.iol.co.za/news/world/will-2012-be-a-record-disaster-year-1.1204664</a>
Thursday, February 2nd, 2012	Fox News	Panetta concerned Israel months from striking Iran	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/02/02/panetta-concerned-israel-months-from-striking-iran/">http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/02/02/panetta-concerned-israel-months-from-striking-iran/</a>

- Now, did you happen to notice a common thread that was woven into the fabric of all of these headlines that I just quickly read through to you?
- If you are one who saw the common denominator as the urgency in the time-line with which everything must take place, then you are watching.
- Here's what I'm thinking, it would stand to reason that with all that is on the geopolitical table prophetically, there has to be a deadline globally.

- In other words, for the life of me, I can't imagine a scenario in which you could push the pause or even the stop button on all that's taking place.
- In terms of just the logic alone, there would have to be a shelf life, if you will, or an expiration date, if you prefer, on what we see happening now.
- Years ago I had a well respected Bible teacher, and author tell me that it was conceivable that we still had at least 10 years before the rapture.

- This was actually 12 years ago and at that time I concurred with what he said however, I believe he'd be hard pressed to hold that view today.
- Let me hasten to say because we know neither the day nor the hour we are to be as ready today as we would be if it were 10 years from today.
- Having said that and with the understanding that having 10 more years is certainly possible, I'm having a very hard time seeing it as probable.

- Allow me to bring this prophecy update to a close by suggesting a thought that at first glance may have the appearance of being sort of silly.
- Here it is, do you think that God would tease us with something like this? Do you believe that He would actually dangle the rapture in front of us?

- I don't. If the truth be known, the opposite is true. Wouldn't our Bridegroom be even more excited than us as His bride for our wedding day?
- After courting my "bride-to-be" for two years, and asking her to marry me, I was counting down the hours, and marking off days, until that day.
- Consider this passage in the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation, beginning in verse four, and as I read it, listen for the unspeakable excitement in it.

**Revelation 19:4-10 NIV** The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: "Amen, Hallelujah!" (5) Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great!" (6) Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. (7) Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. (8) Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) (9) Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!'" And he added, "These are the true words of God." (10) At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."